

Welcome to Room 5

A Great Start to the New Year!

Term 1 Dates to Remember:

- Monday March 2nd — Staff Training Day
- Friday March 6th — Swimming Sports
- March 9 and 10 — Parent Interviews
- Thursday March 9th — Last day of term

Things to remember each week:

- Monday—Art
- Tuesday—Library
- Thursday—Library and Syndicate Singing
- Friday—Music. Remember your recorders!

Things to remember each day:

- Swimming bag
- Homework book and reading book in your bookbag
- A drink bottle with water!

Welcome to the new school year!

Our first two weeks of class have been really very enjoyable – except for these hot afternoons. The children seem to be settling back into school routines.

Team Teaching

This year we are delighted to be sharing teaching in class, and anticipate that there will be a number of advantages to our shared teaching arrangement. Among them – the children will have their teachers fresh and ready to go twice a week, we have new ideas that come about through collaborative planning, greater continuity for the children as we hope to cover relieving for each other as far as we are able, and even two teachers going on school trips. We are sharing teaching and assessment responsibilities between us so that we work to our strengths, aiming to give the children our best.

Subjects for the Term

Our first field trip as a class will be happening in the next few weeks, as we study the New Zealand bush, from both a science perspective and social studies as we look at why different places are important to different people.

We are practicing the skill of observation throughout this term, learning to use all senses to gather information. This will be reflected through learning in inquiry topics, statistics in maths, sound-scapes in music as well as observational drawing in art.

Need to Talk?

If you would like to speak to us, the best times to catch us are:

Candy – Monday afternoons

Lynley – Thursday afternoons

Of course, if you do need to come in at other times, you are welcome, but on these days we are not under particular constraint of time. Alternatively, you can email us:

lynley.jobe@hinuera.school.nz

candy.hollier@hinuera.school.nz

Communication is key to our working relationship, so if you do come and talk to one of us, we will be communicating to each other about it so you don't feel you need to come in twice a week.

We always encourage children to ask questions if they don't understand a concept or task or need help to complete a task. We also like to know if they are having difficulties of any sort socially as we want school to be a safe and happy place for them.

If you are aware that your child is having any problems, please encourage them to come and talk to me, if they don't, please call, email or come in to see us to help prompt them. If ever we have a concern about your child, we will phone you promptly in order to 'catch things early'.

"Meet the teacher" interviews are coming up in March, and we are looking forward to meeting with you then.

Looking forward to working together with you this year for the benefit of your children...

Lynley Jobe

Candy Hollier

Please send notes for:

- Absences unless you have notified the Office yourself;
- Being excused from fitness, swimming or sports;
- Any changes to the normal routine, eg. Picking up early, bus changes or appointments.

Homework

In Room 5 we test spelling, and mark and set new homework on Fridays.

This year, homework will consist of daily reading, basic facts, spelling, a You Can Do It! based discussion or activity and an activity to link our reading and writing programme practically to the home environment. ICT will be a feature also, including Mathletics and our class blog and wiki once we get up and running.

We expect homework will take up to 15-30 minutes each school night, and we encourage children to develop the habit of practising spelling and reading each night and working through the other tasks to complete them.

As there is a wide range of abilities amongst the children in class, we are happy for you to adjust the homework sheet if you think it is too easy or too hard.

If your child can not do the set homework for any reason, can you please write a note in their homework book to this effect.

Basic Facts Tests will be given to the children on the last Friday of each month. I will send home a practice sheet to the children the week before the test as part of their homework every month.

Homework will start on Friday 20th February.

Home Reading

Our routine for children taking home reading books is already well underway. Each morning when the children come in to class they put their chair down, their book bag away and then put the homework book and reading book on their desk. When the bell rings they sit at their desk and read their book while the teachers check that they have completed home reading. Children who need to change their book. Those children who want to read a book that they have at home can, they just need to bring it to school in their book bag as part of their daily routine.

Art Needs:

Box modeling is an activity that we are about to start on Monday. If you do have any boxes or containers that would be useful for some 'make and do', could you please send them a long to school.

Thank you!